## **RULED BY THE MAHDI**

The Region Which Promises to Be a Theater of War.

POLICY PURSUED BY WAR-LIKE CHIEF

the Sudan.

SLICES OF THE PIE



F THE MADHI, who was by all accounts a merciful if misguided man, were living today, he would perhaps repent in bitterness that he had ever preached throughout the Sudan the Jehad, or holv war, raising those marvelous hosts of fanatical

"Fuzzy which shriveled the puny armies wherewith the government of Egypt lelstered up its power along the upper Nile; which fell upon Hicks Pacha's 10,600 men and blotted them out in a day, and which swept away within a single year all the traces of that civilization which had

legun to do so much for equatorial Africa. More than fifteen years have passed since the dominion of the mahdi in the Sudan began, and at this late date it is for the first time rumored, with something like a show of authority, that Egypt, the puppet behind which England pulls the strings, is seriously to advance for the purpose of reconquering the lost provinces. This reconquest sooner or later is inevitable, the sooner the better for civilization and the future of Africa; but whether the power to carry reconquest to a successful issue rests with Egypt, is a question of the larger politics which is played in Europe, and is so entangled with questions of European statecraft that it cannot be intelligently discussed save with reference to these. Roughly speaking, the mahdists or dervishes rule in the heart of Africa, a territory stretched along a portion of the Lower Nile and along both branches of the Upper Nile, a thousand miles from east to west, a thousand miles from path to south and

a thousand miles from north to south, and innabited by millions of people. Within this territory fifteen years have seen great changes, whose precise nature no man in civilization exactly knows. Whole tribes have been wiped out by war, famine and pestilence, and other tribes have changed through migrations inspired by religious feeling the habitations which had known their forefathers for centuries.

Nearly opposite the site of Khartoum has sprung up with a rapidity surpassing the growth of the boom towns of the west, a new city, the capital of the mahdi and of his successor. Omdurman. Here, where twenty years ago was nothing but a huddle of tribesmen's huts marking a ferry from the western bank of the Nile to the low sand bar at the foot of Khartoum, has sprung up a town some three or four miles in extent, walled against invasion, dotted with the domes of mosques and shining in the clear Sudanese sun with the glittering decorations of palaces. At the heart of th town is the new shrine of Sudanese Mo-hammedism, the burial place where the late mahdi was interred within a year after his



This picture has been carefully elaborated from the detailed description of the mahdi given by Slatin Pacha, one of the very few Europeans wh which forbids depicting anything that God has en-

Portrait of the Mahdi.

great triumph over Chinese Gordon at Khartoum by his successor, Khalifa Abdul-lahi, who is himself still sometimes mis-takenly called the mahdi, but whose real title is muntazer el mahdi, or successor of

the mahdi. Rule of Iron.

of the late mahdi, and was by the latter proclaimed before his death as his successor. He disposed of all his rivals and of the relatives of the late mahdi by the usual oriental method of slaughter or imprisonment. His favorite command, when any of the tribes of dervishes or hillmen were suspected of chafing under his authority, has been to send them orders to come into Omdurman and the orders have seldom been disobeyed The result has been that the mahdist capital has become thronged with men who were once raising dates and millet in the oases of the far desert, with the natural result that food in the Sudan has fluctuated in prices greatly during the last few years. At times they have risen to literal famine rates, and then the bodies of people who have died of starvation were as common in Omdurman itself, not to speak of the deserted village: of the interior, as ever they were in the most disastrous pestilences of the middle

No one knows what the population of the Sudan may now be, but it is not doubted that it has decreased 50, 60, possibly even That it has decreased on, or, possible through less in absolute size, it is far more concentrated, so that the khalifa still has at his command great armies of resolute men. bound to him not less by interest than by religious fervor, for while he has merciless ly chastized every clan that he has even suspected of meditating revolt, he has loaded with rewards the strong military tibes upon whose devotion his empire rests. And about his low-walled palace, in the heart of Order has been as the strong military tibes and about his low-walled palace, in the heart of Omdurman, he tas drawn as safeguard against attack or assassination, many thousands of desert warriors.

when, fifteen years ago, they hurled their baked bodies against the lines of well-drilled soldiery, has declined with the discovery that the promised victory over all the world has not come to pass. There is dis-content, too, among the tribesmen whom the khalifa has turned from their homes; among the river boatmen whose dahabeias he has confiscated under the name of taxa tion; among the merchants of the Arab race whose former business along the great Assouan, Kassala, lower Egypt, and the Red sea, he has almost entirely destroyed. Disaffection reaches its height in the distant armies which, from Dongold, the northern province of the dervishes, confront the Egyptian advance at Wady Halfa.

A Feeling of Revolt.

These tribes are charged quite as much with the duty of allowing no one to of the waters of the Nile be leave as of allowing no one to enter the Sudan, because such has been the misrule of the khalifa, and the suffering it has caused, that a large proportion of his sub jects would, if permitted, gladly leave the country. For this reason a resolute advace made by the armies of Egypt might unter sharp fighting for a time, but if they were successful in capturing Don-gola, the birthpiace of the mahdi himself,

the dervishes, it is probable that desertions would be numerous and that whole tribes of harried desert dwellers would go over in masses to the Egyptians.

Had the Mahil lived, it is probable that the power of the Dervishes might now be more strongly intrenched, for to considerable ability the Mahdi added a reasonable degree of human kindness. For his successor, the Khalifa, no word of excuse can be uttered; his character, as it has been painted by Slatin Pacha, Father Don Joseph Ohrwalder, and one or two other European prisoners who have escaped to Cairo, and as it has been revealed by his, wholesale murders, his shameless private life and his lack of ordinary intelligence, European Politics and the Future of life and his lack of ordinary intelligence, is utterly and irredeemably bad. In order to remove the least excuse which devout



Mohammedans might seize upon to leave the country, the Khalifa has decreed that it is no longer the duty of the faithful to make pilgrimages to Mecca, but to the tomb of the Mahdi, a small hexagonal structure, crowned with a dome, which stands in the heart of Omdurman itself.

About a country nearly as large as the United States east of the Mississippi river the Dervishes have drawn a cordon within which no European traveler can safely en-ter, and out of which not even news can

The Political Situation.

So much for the situation in the Sudan itself. It may be assumed that its re-conquest would be almost as easy now as its successful defense fifteen years ago would have been difficult. The only obstacles to the return of the Sudanese to decent government and the enjoyment of at least semi-civilization are political, and they arise not in Egypt itself, but in far away

The whole situation in the Sudan problem was changed, and it was a hopeful change, when the Italian ministry fell on account of the Abyssinian victory at Adua. If the Rudini cabinet is wise and patriotic it may, after a show of hostilities until the war fever is stilled in Italy itself, make peace on easy terms with King Menelek, and with him attack the Mahdists from the east. Menelek would be very willing to do this; his people have been Christians longer than any European nation save the Italians, and they cherish undying hatred toward the Mohammedans, who for a thousand years entirely surrounded their country, isolating it from the rest of Christendom. Their resentment has more recent causes. When the Mahdist power was at its height —it has declined materially in the last ten years—Abyssinia was in a fair way to advance rapidly in civilization and prosperity; but upon the King John of that day, pre-decessor of the King John who died in 1887, the Mahdists fell with crushing force, defeating his armies and slaying the king himself, although the fight was so hotly contested that since that time the Dervishes have usually been willing to let the Abyssinians alone. King Menelek has more Abyssinians alone. King Menelek has more than one hundred thousand men under arms in the field and in garrisons, he has arsenals and artificers, whereas the Khalifa has neither, at least of any degree of efficiency, and his tribes must now be at P. D. John, F. M. Bristol, J. B. Maxfield, efficiency, and his tribes must now be at least no better armed than they were fif-teen years ago, perhaps not so well. There been queer stories affoat in Europe of Russian assistance, both of money and of arms, extended to King Menelek. have been exaggerated. The money Mene-lek could undoubtedly use, and the arms, but he has both in reasonable plenty. Yet the recent decoration of Menelek by the

The Abyssinians present a strange combination of civilization and savagery, of Paris gowns and tables without forks or napery; but they can fight, as the Italians are abundantly able to testify. If, on the ground of common belief in Christianity. the Italian cabinet could reconcile to the public of Italy an alliance with their so recent foes, both interest and inclination might prompt a descent upon the Dervishes from the east, and the subsequent partition of a portion of the territory between the victors. The armies of the Congo Free State have been for some time surrepti-State have been for some time surreputiously active on the western borders of the Mahdist's domain, although the fact long escaped the attention of Europe in the diversion of public interest to the other end of the dark continent by Jameson's

raid.

Factors in the Problem. An Italian arrangement with Menelek may not yet be possible, but there is very little doubt that the movement in the Congo Free State is undertaken in concert with Egypt, nor is there any doubt that these two allies could, without the Italians The khalifa was one of the four generals and the Abyssinians, make conquest of the Sudanese, if Europe would but hold its hand and let the game be played out. If there were no peace between Italy and Abyssinia the former would at least be assisted to hold Kassala against the Mahdists by a diversion of their forces to meet attacks from other directions.

The only difficulty in the way is that Egypt, though nominally an independent power, is practically the ward of Great Britain, which is committed to a tempo-rary occupation of the country for the khedive's good, and is striving, as usual, to find excuses for making that occupation permanent. France, which by withdrawing from the joint military occupation of Egypt foolishly left Great Britain in command, has never reconciled herself to the logical consequences of her own act, and is accustomed to look with suspicion upon any plan with respect to Egypt which in-volves the extension of her power and pos-

But the friendship of Russia for the Abyssinians might, in the event of an attack upon the Sudanese, reconcile France to Anglo-Egyptian advance from the north, if Salisbury can suggest any other corre-sponding advantage for France. Perhaps he has already suggested such compensa-tion in Siam. Far more likely, he has sug-gested it in Africa itself. When the Mah-dist ple is cut there may be a slice to add to the great Niger possessions of the Gal-

lic republic.

There can be no doubt, political considerations aside, that the interests of the Sudanese and of Egypt itself are closely bound up with the reoccupation of the equatorial territory by the Christian powers. Up to date the question has been one many thousands of desert warriors.

Thus the khalifa is strong, but his strength is of the sort that would yield readily to a determined attack. The fanaticome a question of livelihood itself. The Nile has been called the father of Egypt, waters are limited in quantity. but its waters are limited in quantity.

Away in Central Africa, about the head waters of the Nile and along the upper branches and tributaries of that river, the Italian colonies from the east and French colonies from the west may one day seek to divert the upper waters of the river from Egyptian use to such an extent as to cause in the Nile valley such disputes over the ownership of the water necessary to redeem the desert as have occurred on a small scale in some of our own western

states. Even if the two, three or four parties which are contemplating the conquest of the Sudan succeeded in winning that counstoring to Egypt its lost provinces, and even if the jealousy of France is placated for the time, there may still be plenty of occasion for fighting over the disposition AN EX-CAIRENE.

No Time for Emancination.

From Puck. Mr. Newera-"I thought your wife was New Woman."

Mr. Muchblest-"Well, she was. But she has sort of given it up."
Mr. Newera—"What made her give it now the northernmost possession of Mr. Muchblest—"The new baby."

METHODIST WOMEN

Shall They Be Admitted to Seats in General Conference?

CONTEST TO BE RENEWED AGAIN IN MAY

What is Looked Upon as an Impending Church Crisis.

VOTE AS WELL AS WORK

Three women have been elected lay delegates to the general conference or quadrennial international council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which will be held in Cleveland, Ohlo, in May. A determined effort will be made to have them recognized and seated, and an equally determined effort will be made to prevent such

This will precipitate a conflict that may result in a split in the church similar to the one occasioned by the controversy over the negro in 1844, resulting in the formaticn of the Methodist Episcopal Church

The question is: "Shall the women of the Methodist Episcopal Church be allowed a voice and vote in making the laws of the

The general conference is the only lawmaking body of the church. It is com-posed of over 500 ministerial and lay dele-gates elected by the various annual conferences or state meetings in all parts of the world. The preachers elect the ministerial delegates, and the laymen the lay delegates. A lay conference is held in con-nection with the annual conference for the latter purpose every four years.

The lay electoral conference is composed of delegates elected by the various local

churches. It has been the custom in many places to elect women to the lay electoral conferences, together with men, and thus give them a voice in choosing lay representatives to the general conference. Eight years ago five women were elected as general lay conference delegates. They were Amanda G. Ripley of Kansas, Mary G. Nind of Minnesota, Angie I. Newman of Nebraska, Lizzie D. Van Kirk of Pennsylvania and Frances E. Willard of Illinois. The bishops were without precedents to guide them, and in the absence of a law governing the making up of the roll of members instructed the secretary to record and read the names of the women separately until a conference of unquestionably constituted delegates could decide upon the eligibility of women. The question was referred to a special committee, and after a lengthy discussion this committee reported "that under the constitution and laws of the church as they now read women are not eligible as lay delegates in the general conference." A debate took place lasting five days, in which thirty-five set addresses

were made. It was the most important since the famous debate over slavery. Constraing the Law.

Between 1888 and 1892 a proposition to amend the second restrictive rule by specifying distinctly that lay delegates may be men or women was submitted to the annual conferences, but was defeated by 2,000 votes. The preachers mostly voted against the change and the laity for it.

At the conference of 1892, held in Omaha, no women delegates were presented for admission, although the sentiment was

strong in favor of women duction of a resolution requiring the ju-diciary committee of the conference to in-quire whether the terms "lay delegates, laymen and members of the church in full connection, as used in paragraphs 55 to 60 inclusive of the discipline, express or

J. C. Hartzell, C. H. Affenbach, J. D. Ham mond, John Miley, W. P. Dillingham, S. S. Henkle and T. B. Sweet, all of them rep-resentative men of the denomination. The committee spent considerable time in dis-cussing the meaning of the terms indicated. Its report was that the words as used in the paragraphs given did not apply to both sexes, but included men only. The reasons assigned were the evident intent of the lawmakers and precedents.

At this juncture a measure known among Methodists as the Hamilton amendment was presented by Dr. J. W. Hamilton. He proposed that the church and annual con rences vote on an amendment providing that lay delegates "must be male mem hers," with the proviso that in case of failure to pass the words "lay delegates" should be construed to mean either men o

women.
Provisions were made whereby every member over twenty-one years of age, men and women, was given the opportunity to vote for or against this amendment

What Recent Voting Indicates. Many of the German and foreign conferences refused to vote altogether, and in English conferences all over the United States a large proportion of the preachers refused to vote. This action sprang from a feeling that the proposition was not straightforward, and that it would tend to destroy confidence in the action of the general conference.

As a result of the revulsion occasioned by the Hamilton amendment, the Colorado conference took up the old amendment, which proposed that "lay delegates may be men or women," and called upon the other conferences to vote thereon. The conferences of the church in all parts of the world have been voting upon the Colorado amendment. Thus far a strong majority is reported in favor of the admission of women. During the month of April the last fifteen conferences all in the United States will you and of course definition. States, will vote, and of course definite results cannot be announced until all returns have been received, which will be possible until the latter part of April. In view of the sentiment in favor of admitting women as lay delegates, three women have been elected and will present themselves for admission. The women thus honored are Miss Lydia A. Trimble, Mrs. Jane Bashford and Mrs. E. W. Parker.

Miss Trimble is a teacher in the women's school at Hok-Cheing Chine Street school at Hok-Chaing, China. She is at her home in Essex, Ontario, Canada, on a furlough. Miss Trimble went to Foo Chow in 1889 as a missionary from the women's branch of the Foreign Missionary Society. Mrs. Bashford is the wife of Rev. J. W. Eashford, president of Ohio Wesleyan University. A curious circumstance is that Mr. Bashford is a delegate from the Cincinnati conference, while Mrs. Bashford was elected by the Ohio conference. Her home is at Delaware, Ohio. She is known

as a "home-maker" rather than as a leader in public affairs. Mrs. Parker was elected by the North India conference. Her husband is also a ministerial delegate.
In case it is found that the Colorado amendment has carried it will yet be nec-essary for the general conference to finally decide the matter, because the action of the general conferences is not conclusive confirmed by the general conference. It is therefore quite likely that the women named will have their names placed in a separate list until the conference is organ-

Position of Prominent Methodists. If the conference confirms the vote to admit women, then the objection will be raised that the three women cannot be seated because the constitution was not changed until several months after their election, thus making it necessary to wait four years before women could be legally

There is then a probability that the extreme advocates of woman suffrage in the general conference will attempt to secure the recognition of the three already elected

This is where the vital contest is likely to celebrity are arrayed on each side of this question. Among the bishops who favor the admission of women by regular process are Bishops Fitzgerald, Mallalieu, Hurst and Newman.
Mr. Daniel H. Moore, editor of the West-

ern Christian Advocate, at Cincinnati, is regarded as the leader of the movement to admit women. He is seconded by Dr. J. W. Hamilton, corresponding secretary of the Freedman's Aid Society of the church, author of the Hamilton amendment; Dr. A. J. Kynett of the board of church extension; Dr. J. H. Potts, editor of the Michigan Christian Advocate, Detreit; Dr.

Arthur Edwards, editor of the Northwest-ern Christian Advocate, Chicago, and Dr. Jesse Bowman Young of the Central Chris-tian Advocate, St. Louis. The editors of the church papers generally favor the adthe church papers generally favor the ad-

the church papers generally favor the admission of women.

Bishops Africent and Merrill are opposed to women delegates. The hardest fighter on this side is Dr. J. M. Buckley, editor of the Christian Advocate, New York, the leading paper of the church. Dr. F. M. Bristol of Evanston, Ill., is also opposed. The argument of the opposition is that it is unscriptural, unconstitutional and inexpedient to admit women to the law-making council of the church. The question is affecting all branches of the church. The colored Methodists formerly opposed the admission of women, but have since generally manifested favor. The strongest opposition is from the German Methodists of the United States, a very important element of the church. A committee of the German Methodist preachers of Cincinnati prepared a remonstrance to the preachers and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was adopted and sent out a short time ago. The committee consisted of G. E. Hiller, C. Golder, F. L. Nagler, A. J. Nast and H. Grentzenberg, Among other things, they say in this appeal:

"The mission of woman in the church

peal:

"The mission of woman in the church and in society is indeed great. We fully appreciate the grandeur of her calling, and would in no wise obstruct, but rather do all in our power to promote her real advancement. But we contend that God has given her a sphere and manner of influence peculiarly her own, and that it is only as she abides in this, her God-given realm, that she wields her highest power and retains the essential elements of true womanhood."

Status of Women in the Church. In view of the present agitation and the fact that a large proportion of church workers are women it will not be amiss to describe a woman's exact official standing in this church. By a decision of the general conference of 1880 the pronouns he, his and him when used in the discipline his and him when used in the discipline with reference to stewards, class leaders and Sunday school superintendents were construed so as to not exclude women from such offices. The steward's work is especially important because it consists principally of raising money for the support of the preacher. Class leaders are appointed by the preacher, stewards nominated by the preacher and elected by the quarterly conference, and Sunday school superintendents elected by the Sunday school board and confirmed by the quarterly conference. They all have a vote in the quarterly conference, which is the the quarterly conference, which is the governing body of the local church. The line is drawn at granting license to preach Women evangelists are frequently employed in the Methodist Church, and they

ployed in the Methodist Church, and they generally do good work, but the church will not grant them license.

In short, they can do the work, but have no voice in taking the laws. This is the leading que non in this church at the present moment. How to settle it without causing a split is the question that will confront the general conference next May.

The gravity of the situation is fully understood only by those familiar with the question. There is great danger of a split. Twice since the organization of the M. E. Church there has been a secession of enough to form separate denominations—the M. E. Church South, as a result of the slavery controversy, and the Methodist Protestant Church, growing out of the effective state of the state of forts of laymen to secure a voice in mak-ing the laws of the church. Laymen were admitted to the general conference in 1872. Now the women want to get in, and a large number of the men are willing to help them. Admission of women will lead

help them. Admission of women will lead eventually to license to preach and cligibility to the various high offices.

A woman in the bishop's chair is the logical sequence, and this seems to be too much for some of the male law-makers to stand. The decision of this question will have an important bearing on the question of woman suffrage in civil government because political reforms always entering the support of the suppo ernment because political reforms always have their origin in the church.

The woman question in the M. E. Church is the most important ecclesiastical con-troversy of the time, and the action of the general conference will be watched with keen interest by millions.
ALBERT SIDNEY GREGG.

LOST HIS CORNED BEEF.

One of the Incidents of War Times in Richmond.

d Corres. Phila. Times. In Richmond during the last year of the late war, for months, there had been very little fresh meat in the market, and what little there was brought enormously high prices. Provisions of all kinds were bought up by the confederate government to feed the prisoners in Libby prison, of which so much has been written. Several weeks before this incident occurred-which seems a very amusing one, now that it is all overmy grandfather and a friend bought of a farmer from up in the country a considerdistance from Richmond a beef. I was left where it was for several weeks to fatten. The young people of the south, who have heard all their lives of the struggle people in the country, as well as in the city, had to get food for themselves, much less their cattle, know what it meant to get that

But in due time it was considered fat enough, so in the middle of one night, during "de dark ob de noon," I reckon, a wagon might have been seen hastily moving up
frem one of the depots with its precious
burden, half of which was deposited very stealthily at my grandfather's door. Early in the morning my grandmother set two negro men to work to cut it up for corning. First, however, she made them cut off a tremendous roast and had it put right in the oven, which, fortunately, was a very large one and held a big piece of beef. The rest of the beef was kept in the area on an impromptu bench, which was set up under the back porch, the intention being to pre-serve the best part of it in brine. I can imagine the delight with which my uncles and yard and back again to the kitchen, where the preparations for such a good dinner were being made; for, remember, this family, as well as many others, had not tasted

fresh meat for many weeks.
Suddenly the door bell rang, and what was the consternation of my grandfather when it was announced that old Capt. Warrer wanted to see him. As this old gentle-man was the commissary of Libby prison and did not visit the house, they very readily guessed his errand. However, my grandfather shut all of the doors between the house and the kitchen and back porch, telling the cook at the same time not to open the kitchen or the oven door under any circumstances until he returned. He then went in to see Capt. Warner. The captain was a gruff, good-hearted man, and after chatting pleasantly for a few minutes he got up to go. When he stepped into the hall and took his hat the spirits of the familiary of t ily rose—only to have a tremendous fall. Noticing the back hall door, between which and the visitor my grandfather stood, he

"Mr. -, you have a back building out there, I suppose?"

"No," said the other; "only a back

Before he could say anything further the captain had passed him, opened the door and stepped on to the porch, where, by looking over the railing, he saw the doomed beef, now entirely cut up, and the two men rubbing salt into it as fast as they could. "Mr. —, I seize this beef in the name of the confederate government. This is what I came for, I have the papers authorizing me to do it in my pecket. The government will pay you anything you choose to ask for it. I have had men shadowing it ever since it arrived in the city."

Naturally my grandfather was furious.

"You cannot take it," he said. "It has been next to impossible to get it. I paid an exorbitant price for it, and my family are suffering for beef." "I am very sorry, sir; but my orders are to seize every piece of fresh meat found in the city. The prisoners are dying for lack

I am afraid at that time my grandfather

did not care whether they were dying or not; in fact, he said words to that effect, but of course, under the circumstances, there was nothing to do but let him take it away, which he did without more delay. The savory smell of the roast in the oven by some good fortune escaped the notice of the captain. I have often heard my mother tell of how much they all enjoyed that lucky roast for dinner that day and of how furtwere over the loss of the ous they were over the loss of the rest of it. This is how my grandfather lost his

His Hoffor-"Prisoner, you are charged with sending threatening letters through the mail."

Counsel—"Your honor, we admit the letters, but the intent must govern. I shall prove that my client is a professional pugilist."

**EDITOR AND ORATOR** 

Henry Watterson and His Unique Position in Kentucky.

SUCCESS AS A JOURNALIST

His Boyhood and Early Newspaper Work in This City.

STUDIES OF LINCOLN

There is, and there ought to be, something unusually interesting to the people of Washington in the announcement that Mr. Henry Watterson will lecture at the Lafayette Square Opera House tomorrov evening on the "Life, Career and Death of Abraham Lincoln." The subject is one of the most important and inspiring in the whole range of American history, and it is to be treated by one of the most brilliant men connected with the American press. The combination, therefore, of subject and speaker is felicitous in the highest degree, and insures intellectual enjoyment of a very rare order.

Mr. Watterson is something of a citizen of this town. He was born here, he began his professional career here-and. The Star is happy to say, as a contributor to its columns-he has always been a frequent visitor here since taking up his permanent home elsewhere, and his one term in office was spent as a member of the national House of Representatives, and in circum stances that made him a conspicuous figure at a critical era in the country's affairs. Why, with all this to his credit, should not



The age of a man like Mr. Watterson is really not to any point. He has always had a long head, and he will always keep a young heart, and that settles everything. But to be accurate and conventional, it may be stated that he is fifty-five. He was born in the little house No. 235 Pennsylvania avenue, between 2d and 3d streets northwest, a cut of which accompanies this stery, in the spring of 1841. His father, the late Harvey M. Watterson, was at that time a member of the national House from Tennessee, and Washington was but little advanced beyond the conditions of a strag-gling village. The social life of the little town was in the quarter where the Wattersons were sojourning, and there the family remained for several years.

The return home of the elder Watterson

severed the coming youngster's connection with the capital for a season, but the year 1860, when he was only nineteen, found Henry Watterson back in Washington, eager for life's race, admirably equipped for it both in temperament and alertness, and with his choice of work already made. He had resolved to ease the scriptural senterce as it applied to himself as much as possible, and to earn his bread in the sweat of his lead pencil. His first offering was to The Star. A little boy had been drowned in the Potomac, and young Watterson wrote the account of it. The article showed both accuracy and the power of sympa thetic expression, and it served to open the columns of the paper to him for other per-formances. He worked hard and he prospered. He soon established correspondence with out-of-town newspapers, and was an aspiring youngster, with some reputation when Mr. -Lincoln came on to be inaugu-rated. The young man met the President-elect, stood near at hand on the platform the day of the inauguration, and wrote the

story for the next morning's papers. Journalism During the War. Then came the war, when young Watterson abardoned his flattering professional

prospects and went south to cast his lot with the confederacy. He was assigned to staff duty, and saw some service in the field. His talents as a writer, however were demanded in newspaper work, and he became editor of the Rebel, a journal, as its name would indicate, devoted to the cause of the confederacy. He made that hum. But double leads proved to be as powerless as bullets to stay the force of the Union arms, and the Rebel and its slashing young editor were among the assets turned over by the confederacy to Uncle Sam at the close of hostilities.

After the war young Watterson settled in Nashville as a writer for the press, and then moved to Cincinnati, where he had

then moved to Cincinnati, where he had relatives, and where he wrote dramatic and musical criticisms for the local newspapers. In 1867 he went to Louisville as managing editor of the Journal, George D. Prentice's old organ, then in decay, and the next year witnessed the consolidation of the Journal with the Courier, the oppo sition paper, and the establishment, with Mr. Watterson as editor-in-chief, of what afterward became, and still remains, the most famous of southern newspapers. Since that time the Courier-Jon been Henry Watterson, and Henry Watter-son has been the Courier-Journal. They have been twin visitors in thousands of southern households, and have played a notable part in the molding of southern sentiment. Often in advance of local opin ions and those who held them, and called upon to fight hard for supremacy, the rescurceful and courageous man with his popular newspaper never quitted any field worth the winning until it was won, and his own standards of democracy had been accepted as the faith of the party.

The Man for the Time. Although it is by no means his only claim to distinction, Mr. Watterson is best known, and will longest be remembered, as an editor.

He was born to the journalistic purple,

and he has worn it exceedingly well. The Kentucky field afforded him the fullopportunity. Everything was in the transition stage. In business, in politics in journalism, the old was giving place to the new. The war had left everything depressed, the older men all discouraged. The call, the occasion, was for the young men, and, as they always do, they came forward. Mr. Watterson, although but just arrived in the state, led the procession in his line. The old Louisville Journal, for long so great a power, was now almost moribund. Mr. Prentice had lost his favorite son in battle, his wife was dead, his means were low, and he himself was a sadly broken old man. A younger hand was necessary to guide the paper and renew its strength, and Mr. Watterson was

chosen. He came, and soon gave the town such a taste of his quality that attention was attracted to him. Walter N. Haldeman was the editor of the opposition paper, and, being a shrewd man of business, saw that a new move on his part would be necessary. This move took the form of negotiations for consolidation of the two er terprises, and thus the Courier-Journalthe most euphonious name of all the hy phenated ventures—was agreed upon as the

Mr. Watterson's task was difficult ever for him. He had not only to make a name for himself, but in the very shadow of Mr. Prentice's name. But he did it. Their gifts, however, were not alike. Mr. Prentice was the father, and remained the ter, of the paragraph. He was capable of sustained effort, but he was not at his best in that style of deliverance. Mr. Watter-son, on the other hand, cultivated the leader, and made it racy with the collo-quialisms of the soil. He studied his con-stituency, and finding how best to appeal to it, did so with conquering effect. As the turfmen say, he soon "struck his gait," and he has been keeping it, and with it keeping the lead at home ever since.

His Influence in Politics.

The new paper dealt very largely with national politics, and Mr. Watterson, while a sturdy democrat, took a broad and pro-

tate to put the complete reunion of the THE NERVE-SPECIFIC. sections above every other consideration. He advocated fair treatment of the new citizen, the black man, both in the courts and in politics. He swung the paper to the support of Horace Greeley in 1872, and brought the democracy of the state, as of the greater part of the south, to his side. He was one of the men who helped make Samuel J. Tilden the democratic nominee for the presidency in 1876, and in every national campaign since then he has borne an

for the presidency in 1876, and in every national campaign since then he has borne an equally conspicuous part. His pen and voice have both been at his party's service, and both have been recognized as among its most potent influences.

It is difficult to convey to those not familiar with Kentucky life and the Kentucky people just the power Mr. Watterson exerts at home, and how he does it. It is not the power simply of a writer, although he is a charming writer. It is not the power simply of a man who controls the newspaper with a wide news service placed first in the hands of the people in the morning. It is a combination power, of brilliant writer, of controlling editor, of genial and companionable man, of alert political observer, all rolled into one. He is an autocrat, indeed, with a writing pad placed server, all rolled into one. He is an auto-crat, indeed, with a writing pad placed under his fist. His people believe in him, follow him, look out for him, want to hear from him. William Dean Howells, in some delightful recollections of early Ohio journalism, has treated of Horace Greeley's wide influence at that time, how people wide influence at that time; how people, even at that distance, were impatient to hear what "Horace" thought about things, and devoured the Tribune upon its arrival. This picture fits Mr. Watterson and the Courier-Journal in Kentucky. The people in all the little towns-in the small stores, at the cross-roads, in the country court houses—all want to hear from "Watterson," and hail his double-leads as charts for guid-ance. And far beyond the borders of Ken-tucky—as far down as the gulf states—his name carries a very great weight. His Home and His Work.

And for this work, which he has been do ing so long, and still does so well, Mr. Watterson has drawn inspiration from a happy fireside, and a devoted wife and children He lives modestly, but with every comfort, on 4th avenue, in Louisville, and does the greater part of his writing at home. Morning is his time for work, and he yields to working spells. When the spell comes on he almost monopolizes his editorial page, and when it passes he quits and gives the "boys" a chance. He keeps up his "lick" with surprising freshness and effect. He has been in the every day homes page for has been in the every day harness now for almost thirty years without a break, and yet leaders, magazine articles, lectures and speeches show that his resources are still unexhausted. It is not unlikely, inde-d, that thirty-five or forty years from now, when it will not be dangerous to refer to him as an old man, it may still be truthfully said that "age cannot wither him, nor custom stale his infinite variety."

Mr. Watterson, at the very outset of his career, renounced the thought of office for himself. He resolved to keep himself clear of all such entanglements, and to hold to the true independence of a writer for the daily press. He has, in the largest measure, kept his faith. But once has he ever turned out of it, and on that occasion he yielded to a pressure which was simply rresitible.

He has, of course, always participated in political conventions of his party, state and national. He could not avoid that service, for it grew out of his leadership in the discussion of political questions. He presided over the national convention which nominated Mr. Tilden, and he was chairman of the committee on resolutions in the convention of 1888 which renominated Mr. Cleveland. At Chicago, in 1892, he led in the debate in the convention which resulted in the rejection of the compromise tariff plank reported by the platform committee and the adoption of the free trade deliverance on which the party went to the country. In this way, and in many other ways, Mr. Watterson has long been prominently identified with the making of cur-rent political history.

Forced Into Congress. He was drafted for his one term in office, and in circumstances testifying to the very strong hold he had, and has, on the admiration and affections of his neighbors. It was in 1876. The member of the House from rats, it was seen, would stand in need of all the clear heads and stout hearts they could command. Mr. Tilden, to whom Mr. Watterson had already rendered great servloe, and who trusted him implicitly, wanted him elected to the House, and so did the Louisville democracy, to a man. The ten-der of the place was made in this tone of semi-command, and Mr. Watterson yielded,

and, of course, was easily elected.

At that famous session of Congress, when the electoral commission was ordered, Mr. Watterson was much in useful evidence. He championed Mr. Tilden's cause with great earnestness, insisted that he had been elected, and that he should be seated. He exerted himself to the utmost to bring about Mr. Tilden's inauguration. But whe the decree went against him, he accepted the situation without further protest, and gave his influence toward the peaceable carrying out of the commission's decision.



Where Henry Watterson Was Born. (Present appearance of the house.)

The peace of the country, he held, was to be put above all partisan disappointment.

Nothing else engaged his attention while in office. So indifferent was he, indeed, to minor matters connected with his place that one of the most amusing experiences grew out of it. He got a letter one day from an old lady living in Tennessee, who had known him when he was a lad, asking him to send her some garden seeds. The he handed it to Gen. Garfield, who was a near neighbor in the House, for an explaration. "Why, certainly," said Gen. Garfield.

"You've got garden seeds to your credit at the Agricultural Department. Send a note cver there and they'll attend to it."
So Mr. Watterson wrote a note, directing that his quota of garden seeds be sent to the old lady in Tennessee, whose name and ad-dress he inclosed, and it was done. Presently other requests of a like nature began pouring in on him from his own constituents, and these he referred also to Gen. Garfield. "Do as in that other case," explained the general

He Learned When Too Late. "But I ordered my share sent to that old lady." "Not all of your share," replied General

"Why, how much am I entitled to?" inquired Mr. Watterson, in a surprised tone. General Garfield threw back his head and laughed long and loud. "Why, man, that old lady has got seeds enough to plant a county! If she were eligible, she could come to Congress on the strength alone of

Garfield.

In a few days Mr. Watterson got anothe letter from the old lady thanking him for the remembrance, and telling him that he had been so bountiful she had been able to divide with a large number of people in the county. But that didn't help fill the yawn-ing gulf in the Louisville district, and Mr. Watterson was forced to hustle around and borrow from his colleagues to save himself

Dr. Charcot's Kola Nervine Tablets and Their Uses.

This Great Remedy Has an Unparalleled

Record of Cures--It Will Cure You. The Kola nut has been used for centuries by

Africans as a revewer of the tissues and a preerter of fatigue. Dr. Charcot, the eminent authority on nervo

liseases, prepared a prescription from Kola which he vouched for as a true specific in all nervous diseases and a sure invigorator for the blood. Dr. Charcot's Kola Nervine Tablets are prepared upon the above mentioned prescription from the

fresh Luts especially imported from Western Africa.

Kola is not a cure-all. It is a food for nerves,

brain and muscles and a tonic for the blood. Kola Nervine Tablets are absolutely certain and speedy in their effects. They cure all nervous diseases, prevent fatigue, renew falling vigor, give tone to the whole system.

Kola Nervine Tablets cure sleeplessness and the servous troubles from which sleeplessness comes. They are specific in cases of nervous dyspepsin. The druggists say the demand for the Tablet is stonishing. Kola is what the debilitated want.

Thousands of peckages have been sold. Good effects were felt at once. Hundreds of letters say: "One package of the Tablets, costing \$1.00, has done for me what phy

sicians, who cost me \$100, failed to do." We absolutely guarantee that no harmful or sec ordary effects are felt from the use of the Tablets. Can you, in justice to yourself, refuse to pay 3 ents a day for sure relief from neuralgia, bloodesseness, brain fatigue, sleeplessness, nervous dyspepsia, loss of vigor, melancholia and all the evils

the question with all seriousness Dr. A. C. Sherwin, Hotel Pelham, Boston, Mass., indorsed the remedy in September last. He writes nore strongly as he learns its great merit:

resulting from a nervous condition? Ask voursely

men: I am prescribing Dr. Charcot's Kola Nervine Tablets for Nervousness, Insomula, Dyspensia and Neuralgia, with excellent results. I have no hesitation in stating that they are infallible in all forms of nervous diseases. Their invigorating properties are wonderful. Yours truly, "A. C. SHERWIN, M. D."

"Hotel Pelham, Boston, Dec. 6, 1895.-Gentle

Fifty cents and \$1.00 per box (one month's treat ment). See Dr. Charcot's name on box. Kola booklet free. All druggists or sent direct. Euroka Chemical and Mfg. Co., La Crosse, Wis., and Bos ton, Mass.

Watterson himself having been born in Washington while his father was serving in Congress, the advent of the young man of the third generation in similar circumstances was a coincidence fraught with much joy to all the family. This son, who was named for his father, is now a promising young man of nineteen, and will be one of the party to accompany Mr. Watterson to Europe, and under his father's eye take a first view of the sights of the old world.

His Study of Mr. Lincoln.

It was characteristic of Mr. Watterson upon deciding to enter the lecture field to prepare himself thoroughly as a platform speaker. His natural gifts encouraged this His presence, his voice, his energy of delivery, all assured him success as a speaker. And he has achieved it. Indeed, he is now reckened as belonging in the very front rank of platform orators. The sea-son which he will close here tomorrow night has been a series of ovations. He has

been received everywhere with marked favor, and his itinerary has extended from one end of the country to the other. The character of Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Wat-terson confesses, has always filled him with a profound veneration. He has studthe Louisville district had died, and the vacancy was to be filled. A great contest over the result of the presidential election was coming or in Congress, and the demography it was seen would stand in page of all obtainable authoritative history and incident. He regards Mr. Lincoln as being one of the great men of all history, and as certain to stand among because for all as certain to stand among heroes for al time, and it is with this appraisment that he approaches and handles his subject The lecture is pronounced by critics of high reputation a brilliant and altogether sym

nor is Mr. Watterson to halt merely at a lecture. He has prepared himself to treat the subject at length in a book, and is gothe subject at length in a book, and is go-ing to Europe to write it. He sails next Wednesday from New York with that ob-ject in view, and will be absent until the very, eve of the presidential election. His wife and three youngest children accom-pany him. He has not decided as yet upon a stopping place, but it will probably be some little town in Switzerland in close connection by rail with Paris. He will like wise while abroad contribute a weekly letter to his rewspaper, and thus keep his old constituents advised of his whereabouts and the range of his observations.

The Star wishes Mr. Watterson bon vov age, and confesses to an impatience to read the interesting volume, the manuscript of which he will bring with him upon his return, ready for the publisher.

THE BARREL HEAD THEORY.

A Tennessee Preacher is Propagating His Belief in the Earth's Flatness. From the Knoxville Sentinel.

J. A. Ramage, a district preacher of Sevier county, Tenn., is now engaged in interesting the upper portion of that county in the mysteries of a new theory as to the end of the world.

The theory is that the world is flat, like a barrel head. The theorist claims that this is original with him and the Bible, but history says it was the starting point of our present orange-shaped world. He says the plate of earth revolves as it pleases, and is governed solely and completely by its own sweet will, going thither and coming hither, also vice versa, without regard for the burdensome laws of gravity or respect for the claims of the solars and other

objectionable heavenly bodies.

Then the theorist goes into details which will be valuable to the scientific world. He represents the world as being set, flat as it upon four props, one at each corner and the most interesting phase of the prop feature is that they are made of locust And the theory still further continues with the startling statement that these locust props will some time rot and decay. and when they do so the world will fall to some kind of space, striking with a dull,

sickening thud, and burst into fragments and molecules, atoms and such indivisible objects of physical matter. The Sevierville divine is actually preaching his astounding doctrine, and the upper corner of Sevier county is delving deep in the mysteries of the new theory.

A Rival Attraction.

From Truth. Friend-"Did your farce comedy succeed on the road?"

Manager—"Everywhere except in Wash-ington. When we played there the Senate was in session." The March of Science

